

### Abstract of the Disclosure

A linked list is implemented in hardware. Various registers within the linked list are writeable until a control register is written, rendering the registers read-only. A

- 5 computer peripheral includes the hardware linked list to provide a list of capabilities to a querying device. The linked list can be built, modified, or disabled by low level software, and then locked so that it appears as read-only to higher level software such as an operating system or device driver.

10

"Express Mail" mailing label number: EL671639481US

Date of Deposit: June 19, 2001

This paper or fee is being deposited on the date indicated above with the United States Postal Service pursuant to 37 CFR 1.10, and is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, Box Patent Application, Washington, D.C. 20231.

-----